



Professionalism ★ Respect ★ Integrity ★ Dedication ★ Excellence

Sequim Police Department

2019 Annual Report

Sheri Crain
Chief of Police

www.sequimwa.gov/111/Police



CITY OF
SEQUIM

DEPARTMENT MISSION

To partner with our community in preserving the peace and reducing the incidence of crime for everyone who lives, works, and visits in our city.

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Value Statement



Professionalism

We will provide the highest quality service by applying our skills, knowledge, and abilities for the benefit of the community.

Respect

We are committed to fair and impartial service. We will ensure that everyone is treated with equality, respect, and compassion.

Integrity

We will maintain the highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct.

Dedication

We are committed to the relentless pursuit of justice.

Excellence

We lead by example and provide the highest level of service utilizing education, training, and technology.



2019 Officer Appreciation Day
Chief Sheri Crain

Message from Chief of Police

Sheri Crain

I have a hard time describing 2019, it seems like so many things happened and not all good. Sequim experienced our first Homicide investigation in some time. We are committed to providing closure to the victim's family and continue towards that goal to this day.

Our staff also assisted in the other Homicide investigations that happened within Clallam County in 2019. Both such instances were notable exceptions to our typically low numbers of violent persons crimes, both within the City limits and county wide. Overall, you'll see within the body of this report that Sequim's persons crime numbers remain low. Our normal crime picture for most crimes

in 2018 had been lower than normal. 2019 numbers saw some returns to a normal range though overall our numbers are still relatively low for our size City.

We experienced some turn over in 2019 which led to the hiring of Officer Andrew Wagner, a veteran of the Sheriff's office, and Heather Robley in our Records area, a veteran of the Washington State Patrol. Both brought a wealth of experience with them and are enjoying their Sequim experience. The 2019 budget expanded the size of our Commissioned police force to 20. That new Officer position was filled by Officer Taran Johnson. A new Officer must attend the Washington State Criminal Justice Academy for over 5 months. He started in August and graduated in January of 2020. The intention behind the addition of a 20th Officer is to maintain our high level of service to the community against the growth of our community and activity that results. Within our 2018-2022 Strategic plan, available on the website, a staffing methodology was laid out that led to the Council approving the additional position in 2019.

In 2019, Sequim Police, Fire District 3 and the Sequim School District collaborated with our community and regional partners in public safety to conduct a Mass Casualty drill. The event was several years in the making. We had many goals and objectives to our drill and found that the planning process brought all the involved agencies even closer and more in tune with each other than ever before. In the end we have plans, procedures, equipment, skills and tactics, better communication, and have built relationships that exceed our normal professional, typical, and routine interactions.

I encourage you to read further. Included in this report are summary statistics for 2019 along with some historical perspective. You'll also find information about our programs and the good works done by our staff. As always, we're here for you. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheri Crain'.

Sheri Crain
Chief of Police

Welcome Officer Johnson

Officer Taran Johnson began working for the Sequim Police Department in August 2019. As an entry-level officer, Johnson spent the next five months at the Police Academy, graduating and receiving his commission in January 2020. Johnson graduated with honors, being the top academic in his class and second overall. Since then, Johnson has returned to Sequim and has begun serving the community.

Johnson moved to Sequim in June 2017 after family relocated to the area for work. Prior to moving to Sequim, Johnson lived in Seaside, OR for 13 years where he spent a good portion of his childhood. Johnson graduated from Seaside High School in 2012 as Valedictorian and went on to college to pursue a degree in the medical field. Johnson changed majors and eventually received two Associate Degrees, one in Criminal Justice. In his spare time, Johnson enjoys a variety of outdoor activities, playing with his dog, and spending time with family and friends.



Welcome Officer Wagner

Officer Andrew Wagner was born and raised in Sequim, WA. He married his wife Danielle in 1997 and has two children.

Wagner started his public service career as a volunteer firefighter in 1995 with Clallam County Fire District #3. He worked as an EMT for Olympic Ambulance for 8 years and, during that time, decided to become a Reserve Deputy thereby beginning his law enforcement career. Wagner was hired on full time with the CCSO before ever doing a ride along as a Reserve. He worked for the Clallam County Sheriff's Department for 12 years before joining the Sequim Police Department.

During his time at the Sheriff's Office he started training to become a Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) and has continued training through Sequim Police Department in pursuit of that goal. He was also the Tribal Liaison Deputy for the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe for 5 years and his work included dealing with criminal investigations on tribal property as well as talking with the tribal youth (about wearing your seat belt on the bus for younger kids to child sex trafficking for the teen girls' group).

Welcome Heather Robley

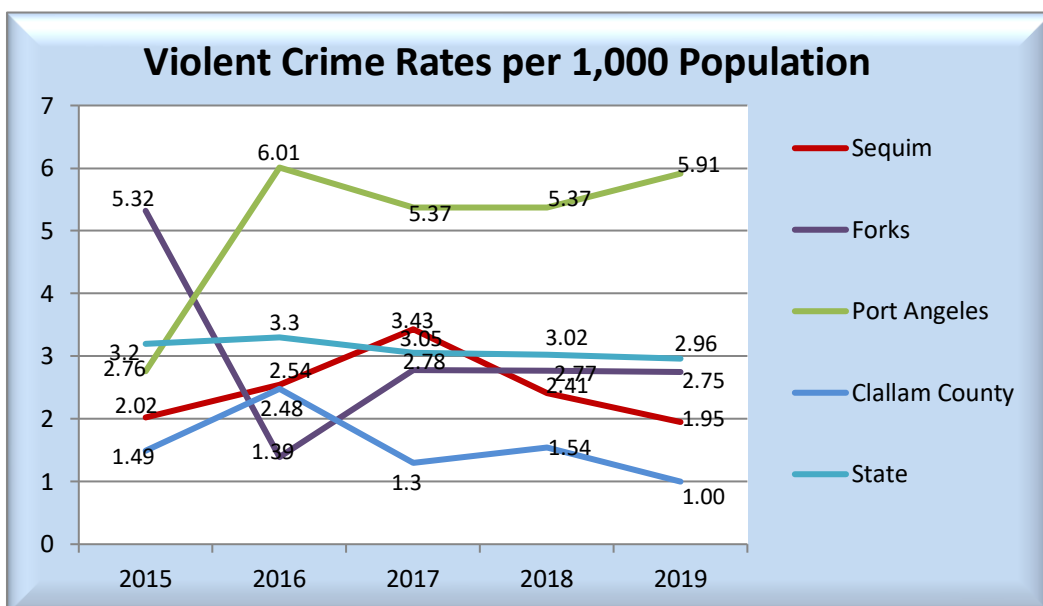
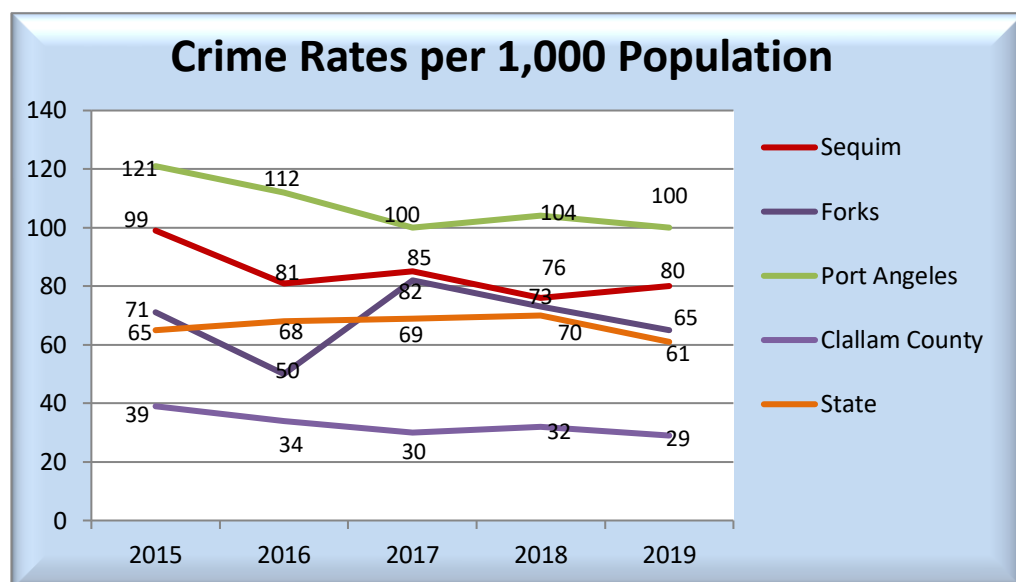
Heather Robley began working for Sequim Police Department in July 2019 as a Police Specialist. She relocated to Sequim, WA from Vancouver, WA where she worked for the Washington State Patrol (WSP) first as an Administrative Assistant and then as a Public Records Custodian. She loves the Olympic Peninsula and hopes to get out and adventure as much as possible. Heather and her husband, Steve, have four children, one granddaughter, and a grandson due in September 2020.



Crime Rates & Officer Activity

Sequim's **Crime Rate** has been relatively even over the last four years. Data in the charts on this page reflect the crime data submitted to the FBI for national collection. For more specifics, our crime data can be seen at the WASPC -Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs - website.

<https://waspc.memberclicks.net/crime-statistics-reports>



Violent Crime Rates are low and continue to drop from 2017. A few violent crime incidents impacted our overall crime rate per thousand.

Although the statistics measured against those neighboring agencies do not provide an apple to apple comparison, they are intended to give some local perspective to the surrounding area.

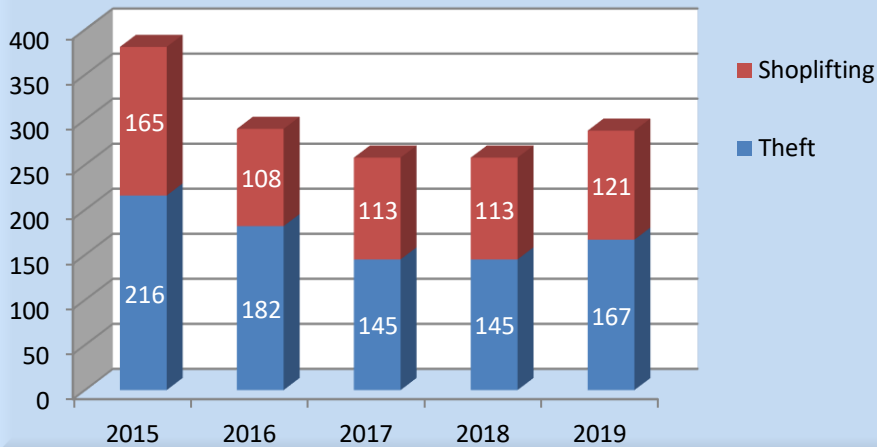
Most categories tracked through national crime statistics went down. Most crime categories went back into an average range to include property crimes such as Larceny and burglary. A rash of counterfeit bills passed in our area accounts for the majority of forgery numbers in this chart. That crime series was closed by arrest after a long and complicated investigation by our patrol staff.

Property crimes continue to be the majority of our crime load. We encourage residents and visitors to remove valuables from your vehicles overnight, lock your car doors, beware of scams, and to lock your homes. An ounce of prevention goes a long way.

Violent Crimes	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Murder	0	1	0	0	1
Rape	1	5	5	7	4
Aggravated Assault	7	10	19	9	10
Simple Assault	61	68	54	57	40
Robbery	0	2	1	2	0
Burglary	50	32	40	29	49
Larceny	311	230	252	265	272
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	10	12	8	9
Forgery	19	19	18	11	25
Fraud	9	10	13	8	12
Stolen Property Offenses	16	14	11	11	6
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	53	44	49	40	45

Crime Rates & Officer Activity – Cont.

Annual Theft Cases in Sequim



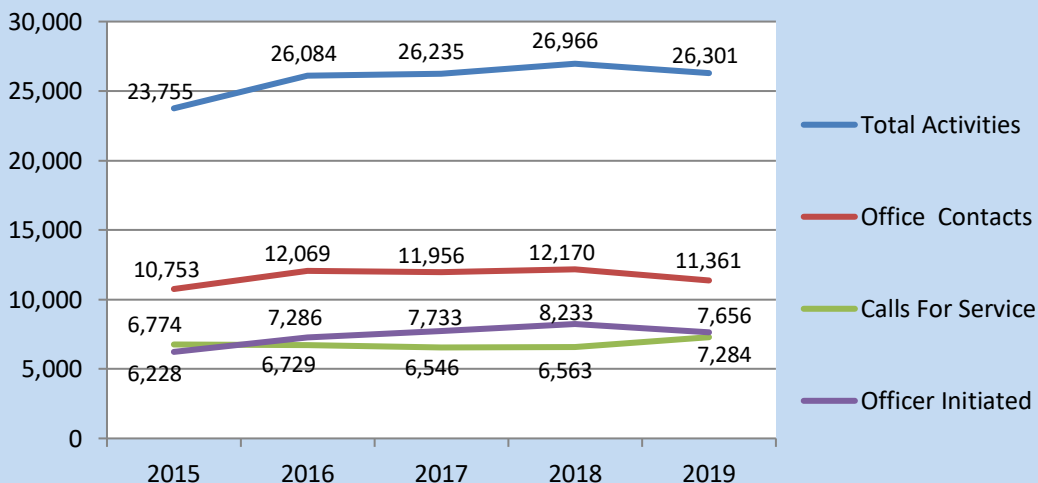
Shoplifting and theft cases remain lower than in years past.

We appreciate efforts made by citizens to reduce their likelihood of victimization. We also appreciate efforts made by businesses to reduce theft from their stores.

Officer Activities reflect responses to citizen calls for service, but the categories also include self-initiated activity numbers generated by individual Officers. This is one area where we can demonstrate our proactivity in our community. It is likely that proactive, self-initiated activity contributes to the reduction in crime numbers in some categories. Welfare check numbers remain high. This is an area that reflects human services needs for our area. Often we contact people in need of services.

Officer Activities	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Welfare Checks: people	328	456	522	522	618
Welfare Checks: 911 hang-ups	787	655	613	730	722
Alarms	331	293	339	337	278
Suspicious Person/Circumstance/Vehicles	616	597	647	698	763
Drug Arrests	87	79	73	56	32
Parking Complaints	69	67	99	119	82
Noise Complaints	92	65	102	87	73
Disturbances	259	300	309	340	344
Building Checks	803	1,239	961	1315	1425
DV - Physical/ Arrest Made	53	42	59	53	26

Workload Indicators



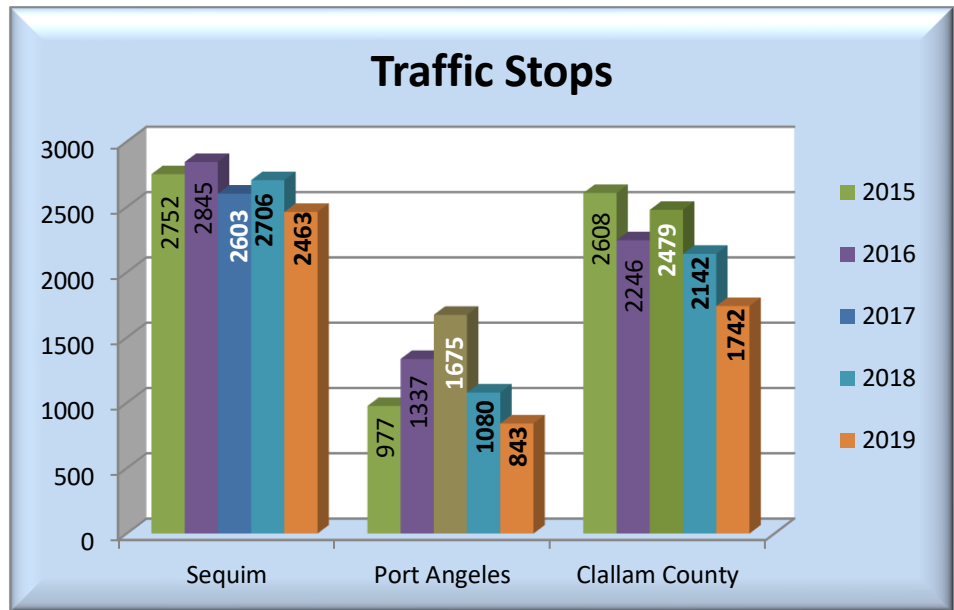
Our front office provides a host of services internally for our Officers and externally to citizens at the front counter or those seeking assistance by phone.

Office contacts can include requests for fingerprinting, dog licensing, vacation house checks, and a myriad of other support services.

Traffic Enforcement

When not responding to calls for service, Sequim Police Officers work proactively to identify active crimes, including the enforcement of traffic laws.

The local comparisons also provide some perspective as to how much proactive traffic enforcement and education we commit to each year.



Traffic Offenses	Clallam County	Port Angeles	Sequim
Driving While License Suspended - 1st	2	1	0
Driving While License Suspended - 2nd	7	5	11
Driving While License Suspended - 3rd	125	71	151
Driving Without Interlock Device	11	4	6
DUI - Alcohol	56	44	12
DUI - Drugs	6	8	5
Hit & Run - Attended Prop. Damage	7	29	6
Hit & Run - Injury	2	1	3
Hit & Run - Unattended	32	59	34
No Valid Driver's License - 1st	3	0	5
Reckless Driving	4	4	3
Total 2019 Offenses	236	241	149

We perform a significant number of traffic stops yet have fewer numbers of many of these types of traffic offenses. This is the result of working diligently to address the offenses we do have in our community and using the rest of our time as an opportunity to address speed and other driving behaviors, whether with infractions or warnings, to educate and prevent collisions where possible.

Driving under the influence is a nationwide problem and one that Sequim is not immune to. However, because of our officers' proactivity and diligence to traffic enforcement, our arrest numbers are significantly fewer than that of neighboring agencies. This level of traffic enforcement serves as a strong deterrent intended to prevent crimes such as DUI.

Sequim PD will continue with an aggressive traffic enforcement campaign to further educate our citizens and reduce the incidence of intoxicant-related and speed collisions.



Community Involvement & Volunteers



Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Annual Volunteer Hours	4,088	4,600	5,017	4,259	4,559.5
Vacation House Checks	1,419	2,453	3,046	3,343	2,770
Child Passenger Safety Seats Installed /Inspected	52	73	100	34	30
Project Lifesaver Clients	10	11	18	18	19

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
1999 – 2019

As the needs of our community members change, so do the assignments and activities our VIPS engage in

We hired 7 new volunteers in 2019 and had 6 retire from service. With the influx of new hires, we were able to provide more targeted services to our community and overall hours increased. Although we had fewer vacation house checks to perform, our VIPS stayed active during that time by continuing to assist Project Lifesaver clients, reorganizing the Business Watch program, and providing customer support at our fonts counter and on patrols.

Additionally, the Sequim VIPS provided added security and support at a variety of City events including the annual Irrigation and Lavender Festivals, Sequim Prairie Nights Car Show, KSQV Dog Days, supporting the DEA Drug Take-Back day, and Downtown Trick-or-Treat extravaganza - to name a few.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS) member please visit our website at

www.sequimwa.gov/302/Volunteers-In-Police-Service-VIPS



Community Involvement & Volunteers – Cont.



VIPS Mike McCown was awarded 2019 Partner of the Year by his peers for exhibiting those qualities that are most desired in any volunteer: dedication, teamwork, and trust



VIPS Deborah Weaver was awarded the 2018 Westcott Award for her exemplary service to the Police Department and City of Sequim



VIPS Chris Ogden was awarded 2019 Volunteer of the Year by SPD Administration for consistently going above and beyond the standard VIPS duties

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD



Corporation for
NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

GOLD (500+ hours)

Deborah Weaver

SILVER (250-499 hours)

Diane Grove
David Kobunski
Michael McCown

BRONZE (100-249 hours)

Donna Atwood	Alan Johnson
Joy Beaver	Chris Ogden
Joy Bertman	Carol Pearson
Shari DeFoer	Mary Pogue
John Eaton	Susan Pressman
Lorri Gilchrist	Larry Smith
Bill Hegarty	Gil Ulibarri

IRRIGATION FESTIVAL

On May 4th, Chief Sheri Crain, K9 Officer Mamba and handler Officer Dailidenas, Sequim Bike Patrol, and Sequim VIPS began the procession of floats for the 2019 Irrigation Festival Parade. Sequim Police received assistance from Clallam County Sheriff's Office, Jamestown S'Klallam Fish & Game Enforcement, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Port Angeles Police Department, Port Townsend Police Department, and Washington State Patrol throughout the event to ensure the safety of participants and spectators.



Community Involvement & Volunteers – Cont.

CRIMINAL MASS CASUALTY EVENT

The Sequim Middle School Criminal Mass Casualty Incident (CMCI) Drill was conducted to test several goals and objectives centered around the management and control of a CMCI. Partner agencies began the planning and goal setting of the drill in January of 2019 and continued for two weeks after the completion of the drill on September 28th.



The CMCI drill's objects were: Response Protocols, Unified Command, Communications (Internal/External and Crisis), Reunification, Emergency Operations Center Activation, and a Written After-Action Review. The intention was to create a model planning document and create a qualified training program to remediate or reinforce any lessons learned for use in our 2020 training plan.

A small planning committee was formed from partner agencies to plan the drill, establish objectives, and set training priorities. The drill was evaluated utilizing Exercise Evaluation Guidelines (EEG[®]); broken into four priorities: Interior (Protocols), Exterior (Unified Command) and Reunification; with all being supported by an activation of the cities EOC.

Design of the drill centered around testing each of the three categories using the scenario of a CMCI event at the Sequim Middle School.

A series of joint trainings were conducted between CCFD#3 and the Sequim Police to implement the Rescue Task Force model into existing active shooter response protocols (based upon the Hillsboro Model). These trainings were conducted over several months and increased in complexity and scope towards the date of the drill.

At the conclusion of the drill separate feedback sessions/loops were completed with four groups: Responders, Reunification, Emergency Operations Center and Role-players. The planning committee then met at a later date and conducted a critical review of the drill design process. The findings from these groups were included in an improvement plan for future drill planning and training.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH RUN

Sequim Police Department participated in the annual Special Olympics Torch Run on May 29th.



Each year, several officers participate in carrying, and passing, the torch throughout the Olympic Peninsula. All funds raised go to support the program; the money is dedicated to local Special Olympics teams the Orcas (Clallam County) and the Warriors (Jefferson County).

Employee Recognition

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Officer Jeff Thaxton was unanimously voted by the supervisory staff of the Sequim Police Department to receive the agency's 2019 Employee of the Year Award. Officer Thaxton displayed a relentless pursuit of justice and compiled a considerable body of work to his credit. He continually demonstrated effective leadership at all levels, all while encouraging creative problem solving. Finally, he displayed the department's values in that he showed the integrity of his work ethic and his dedication to excellence; providing the highest quality of service by applying his knowledge, skills, and abilities for the benefit of not only the City of Sequim, but the entire community.

PARTNER OF THE YEAR

The Partner of the Year Award recognizes an individual who the Sequim Police Officers would most want to have as a "Partner on Patrol." It is designed to recognize those qualities that are most desired in any policing partner: dedication, technical competency, tactical competence, self-motivation, and trust. Voted the 2018 Sequim Police Department's Partner of the Year was **Sergeant Dave Campbell**.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Detective Devin McBride is one of only a few Law Enforcement Officers in Clallam County who assisted in the investigations of all 8 homicide and 1 attempted murder cases that occurred in Clallam County in 2019. A detective working that number of homicides, in a single year, has never occurred within Clallam County. Accordingly, McBride's actions were worthy of merit in a commendable manner and he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Officer Paul Dailidenas, Officer Mark Poole, Officer Jeff Thaxton, and Officer Chris Wright Responding to a call for service in April, Officers arrived and determined that a male was inside the residence and in cardiac distress; Officers entered the residence with an AED and CPR Mask. The effected male was placed on the floor and as Officers applied the AED, breaths were provided. After instruction by the AED, CPR was continued until medics arrived and took over; through the application of drugs, the patient was saved. This was a combined effort of all officers involved and shows their dedication and integrity, working together in a time of crisis for a successful conclusion; saving another human's life.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COMMENDATION

Rick Larsen was awarded the Criminal Investigation Commendation. Larsen distinguished himself by exercising superior attention to duty and outstanding investigative efforts leading to the identification, location, and arrest of major criminals. He worked as the lead investigator in several high-level drug investigations and assisted in investigating both the triple homicide in Clallam County, by locating suspects and witnesses, and the quadruple homicide in Port Angeles. By way of effective handling criminal investigations, Larsen brought praise and recognition upon the department.

COMMENDATION

Sergeant Darrell Nelson received a Commendation for operating as the Department's lead member of the group tasked with planning and executing the 2019 Active Shooter drill at the Sequim Middle School. The process was a major undertaking not only for the Police Department, but for all the involved parties which included: Clallam Fire District 3, Sequim School District, Clallam County Emergency Management, and City of Sequim staff. Sergeant Nelson's efforts encompassed protocol development, project plan management, law enforcement training, joint law enforcement and Fire personnel training, school/law/fire joint training, as well as overall management of the Drill plan and execution. He demonstrated excellent leadership, project management, and relationship building skills during all facets of this process.

Employee Recognition – Cont.

LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Sergeant Mike Hill participated in and supervised a series of significant cases originating in the City of Sequim and assisted with several of our partner Agency's cases. By the end of the year, Hill had been involved in as many high profile, major, and complicated violent crimes by volume as this Department had seen since 2005. He was prepared and focused, jumped into managing those investigations, applied caseload management techniques, and became proficient with juggling priorities from day to day, week to week, and month to month. Detective Sergeant Hill, in recognition of his professionalism, devotion to duty and dedication to our Department's Mission, received Letters of Recognition.

Sergeant John Southard was an integral team member representing the City of Sequim in emergency planning for over two years. He helped improve the Comprehensive Emergency Management plan, served as the City's liaison with Clallam County Emergency Management for communications for the east end of the county, supervised the Sequim Emergency Operations Center radio room improvements, and facilitated a portable radio communications equipment project which provided significant response capabilities that combined place Sequim EOC and Sequim Operational Area Command efforts on a much stronger footing. Sergeant Southard also took the lead in building a Mass Casualty response plan that should provide an example response template for all of Clallam County. For his exceptional level of excellence in these activities over the course of 2018 and 2019, Sgt. Southard is most deserving of this Letter of Recognition.

TARGET ZERO TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARDS

The Target ZERO Program is a statewide program designed to eliminate fatal traffic crashes. The Sequim Police Department created this award to recognize officers who achieved a minimum of ten drunk driver arrests and/or initiate at least 300 vehicle stops over the course of a year. The following Sequim staff received the Traffic Safety Award for their outstanding efforts in 2017: **Officer Carolee Edwards**, **Officer Kyle Resser**, and **Officer Jeff Thaxton**.



Organizational Chart

